

## Secret-Hunters

*Then Josue . . . secretly sent out two spies . . . saying, "Go, reconnoiter the land and Jericho."*

This story from the Bible dates back more than 3,000 years. The spies' job was simple but dangerous: Enter enemy territory and bring back information. This they did.

In our time the task of gathering information is done not just by spies, but by radar, camera-carrying planes, and even space satellites. The United States conducts a huge world-wide hunt for facts that will help our leaders decide how to act in foreign relations. They need to know especially what our opponents in the Cold War are doing.

But isn't spying morally wrong? Not if one nation believes another country is planning an attack. The use of secret agents in that case is a lawful means of self-defense.

The major center for information on other nations is the Central Intelligence Agency, founded in 1947. It employs thousands. But not all of them do secret, glamorous work. Some, for example, read foreign newspapers and magazines, searching for hints and clues that will lead to other facts.

The director of the CIA for eight years was Allen W. Dulles. Now he's retiring.

The new boss is a "quiet-spoken

dynamo," John A. McCone. He's a Californian who started in business at 40 cents an hour as a riveter. Later he became a shipbuilder and owner. He is known for his unfailing good manners.

Under President Eisenhower he headed the Atomic Energy Commission. A Catholic, he has been knighted twice by the Holy See.